

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11

OMB-01 EB-11 DRC-01 /156 W  
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R 181740Z JAN 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3637

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MCAP

SUBJECT: MBFR: ITALIANS RAISE ALLIED COST SHARING ISSUE

VIENNA FOR USEL MBFR

REF: A. USNATO 4670

B. USNATO 4398

SUMMARY: DURING JAN 14 SPC MEETING ITALIAN REP STATED THAT ALLIES SHOULD NOW AGREE TO INTERNAL COST-SHARING FORMULA FOR MBFR CONFERENCE EXPENSES REIMBURSABLE TO AUSTRAIN GOVT. ITALIANS MAINTAIN AGREEMENT ON HELSINKI FORMULA REACHED IN SPC ON SEPT 18 WAS ONLY FOR EXTERNAL USE AND DID NOT APPLY TO INTERNAL NATO DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH EXPENSES. END SUMMARY.

1. ITALIAN REP (SPINELLI) SAID THAT ITALY HAD GONE ALONG WITH THE HELSINKI FORMULA (REF B) ONLY TO ENABLE BELGIANS TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS WITH AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT ON ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS. AT A LATER DATE, ITALY HAD ENTERED A RESERVATION RE APPLICATION OF HELSINKI FORMULA TO INTERNAL ALLIED COST-SHARING. HE MAINTAINED THAT THE SEPT ALLIES HAD AGREED TO A  
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HELSINKI COST-SHARING FORMULA ONLY AS A BASIS FOR AN EAST/WEST DIVISION OF MBFR CONFERENCE COSTS. (REF B)

2. FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL AND "PSYCHOLOGICAL" REASONS, ROME

WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY WITH AN MBFR COST-SHARING ARRANGEMENT BASED ON THE HELSINKI FORMULA. IN MBFR, ITALY WAS NOT A DIRECT PARTICIPANT; ITS INTERESTS ARE DIFFERENTLY AFFECTED; ITALIAN WAS NOT A WORKING LANGUAGE, ETC. ITALY WOULD ACCEPT EITHER A NATO MILITARY BUDGET COST-SHARING FORMULA OR AN AHG COST-SHARING FORMULA. U.S. REP OBSERVED THAT WHEN HE HAD ACCEPTED THE HELSINKI COST-SHARING FORMULA IN SEPTEMBER HE HAD ASSUMED MATTER OF DIVISION OF EXPENSES REIMBURSABLE TO AUSTRIAN GOVT. WAS SETTLED.

3. UK AND FRG REPS STATED THEY HAD INSTRUCTIONS THAT HELSINKI FORMULA SHOULD APPLY TO VIENNA. UK REP ADDED THAT LONDON'S POSITION WAS FIRM ON THIS, SINCE IT REGARDED MBFR AS A NEGOTIATION OF SOVEREIGN STATES IN WHICH EACH HAD EQUAL OBLIGATIONS. DANISH REP NOTED THAT SPECIAL AD HOC GROUP ARRANGEMENT AGREED TO IN OCTOBER HAD NOT BEEN UNDERSTOOD AS SETTING A PRECEDENT. NORWEGIAN REP SUGGESTED THAT IT CIRCULATE PAPER LAYING OUT FACTS AND COST-SHARING ALTERNATIVES, AFTER WHICH MATTER COULD BE DISCUSSED IN AN APPROPRIATE FORUM. ITALIAN REP AGREED AND ASKED ONLY THE SPC NOW AGREE THAT ISSUE REQUIRED A DECISION, AND TASK AN APPROPRIATE NATO BODY WITH EXPLORING ALTERNATIVES. CHAIRMAN (KASTL) THEREUPON PROPOSED THAT HE COMMUNICATE ISSUE TO ANDRESEN, CHAIRMAN OF BOTH CBC AND MBC, WITH THE REQUEST THAT HE DEAL WITH IT ORGANIZATIONALLY IN MOST APPROPRIATE MANNER.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT KASTL HAS NOW DONE THIS; ANDRESEN HAS AGREED TO TAKE OVER PROJECT AND WILL PREPARE PAPER CALLED FOR BY NORWEGIAN REP. WHEN PAPER IS COMPLETED, DELEGATIONS WILL BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A GROUPING ANDERSEN WILL SUGGEST. WE WILL TRANSMIT NEW PAPER AS SOON AS CIRCULATED. MATTER WILL IN ALL CASES COME BACK TO SPC. FIRST MEETING OF ANDRESEN GROUP PLANNED FOR FEBRUARY 4.

5. COMMENT: WE PROPOSE TO HOLD ITALY TO SEPT 18 AGREEMENT--WHICH ALLIES MIGHT NOT HAVE ACCEPTED HAD THEY KNOWN ITALIAN POSITION AT THAT TIME--AND BELIEVE THAT UK AND FRG WILL ALSO ATTEMPT TO HOLD ITALY TO ITS ORIGINAL COMMITMENT.

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WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE IN TIME FOR FEB 4 MEETING.  
RUMSFELD.

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